United Nations S/PRST/2004/29

Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5018th meeting of the Security Council, held on 5 August 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Côte d'Ivoire", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the signature, on 30 July 2004 in Accra, by the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, the Prime Minister of the Government of National Reconciliation, Mr. Seydou Elimane Diarra, and all the political forces of Côte d'Ivoire, of an agreement (the "Accra III Agreement") that consolidates the implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis process. It recalls that it endorsed the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement. It welcomes the resolute commitment of the African Heads of State and Government, in particular of the Chairman of the Economic Community of Western African States, Mr. John Agyekum Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana, and the Chairperson of the African Union, Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the other participants to the Accra summit of 29-30 July 2004, thanks to which the conclusion of this agreement was made possible.

"The Security Council welcomes the spirit of dialogue and responsibility showed by President Gbagbo and each of the Ivorian parties, who have clearly demonstrated their willingness to lead the political process in Côte d'Ivoire to its completion. It welcomes the concrete measures agreed upon by the signatories of the Accra III Agreement, with a view to facilitating the full and comprehensive implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement and because of the serious threats, caused by the continuing crisis, which persist against the territorial integrity of Côte d'Ivoire. It urges the parties to adhere strictly to the deadlines that have been fixed, in particular to settle the issue of the eligibility to the Presidency of the Republic and to start the disarmament, in accordance with the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement, for all paramilitary groups and militias and to disband disruptive youth groups.

"The Security Council urges all parties to implement in good faith, without delays or preconditions, the obligations they have undertaken in signing the Accra III Agreement. It calls upon them in particular to remain committed so that open, free and transparent elections could be held, as agreed, before the end of 2005. It reaffirms its complete readiness to take any

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appropriate measure against individuals who impede the full implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement.

"The Security Council takes note with profound concern of the preliminary results of the investigation led by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire on the massacres that occurred in Korhogo. It reiterates its firm condemnation of all atrocities and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed in Côte d'Ivoire and in particular those that have occurred on 25 and 26 March 2004 in Abidjan. It reiterates its full support to the international commission of inquiry put in place by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in order to establish the facts and circumstances of the perpetration of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law which occurred in Côte d'Ivoire since 19 September 2002, and, as far as possible, to identify their authors. It recalls that all persons responsible for such violations will be brought to justice. It encourages the Ivorian parties to establish without further delay, as they have committed themselves to, the National Commission for Human Rights provided for by the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement.

"The Security Council expresses its intention to continue to follow closely developments of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire and the implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement. It emphasizes in this regard the importance of the follow-up mechanism and looks forward to the regular reports provided for in the Accra III Agreement of 30 July 2004. It requests in this regard the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed about the implementation of commitments under the Accra III Agreement."

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15 August 2004

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5021st meeting of the Security Council, held on 15 August 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Burundi", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns with the utmost firmness the massacre of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo which occurred on the territory of Burundi, in Gatumba, on 13 August 2004.

"The Security Council requests the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi, in close contact with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to establish the facts and report on them to the Council as quickly as possible.

"The Security Council calls upon the authorities of Burundi and of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate actively so that the perpetrators and those responsible for those crimes be brought to justice without delay.

"The Security Council calls upon all States in the region to ensure that the territorial integrity of their neighbours is respected. It recalls in this respect the Declaration on the principles of good-neighbourly relations and cooperation adopted in New York on 25 September 2003. It encourages them to redouble their efforts in order to provide security for the civilian populations on their territory, including for the foreigners to whom they grant refuge.

"The Security Council requests the United Nations Operation in Burundi and the United Nations Organization's Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to offer their assistance to the Burundian and Congolese authorities with a view to facilitating the investigation and to strengthening the security of vulnerable populations."

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